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BOOK REVIEWS

IN CHARGE OF
M. E. CAMERON



A TEXT-BOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY. By Isaac Ott, A.M., M.D., professor of physiology in the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company.

Many students and teachers will find in this book the happy medium in physiology that they have sought for long and vainly. There are text-books a-many on the subject which give a very brief and sketchy idea of it, and there are others so big and so ponderous that it seems impossible to find time to make oneself familiar with all that lies within their covers. This one strikes a middle course of generous proportions, and yet curtailed or condensed so as to be easily grasped and comprehended—even easily committed to memory if that is desired. The subject is one that grows upon the student, and after an excellent course of Kimber she will be sure, if she is a good student, to come asking for more. This book may well become a great favorite in the nurses' classroom.

MANUAL OF MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACY. Specially designed for the use of Practitioners and Medical, Pharmaceutical, Dental, and Veterinary Students. By E. Stanton Muir, Ph.G., V.M.D., instructor in comparative materia medica and pharmacy in the University of Pennsylvania. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Crown octavo, 192 pages, interleaved throughout. Bound in extra cloth, \$2.00 net. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company, 1914-16 Cherry Street.

Although this book is not suitable as a nurses' text-book, it may prove interesting reading to many. It begins with a delightfully kindergarten course in botany—perhaps the faintest suggestion of a course that could possibly be indicated; this, with a list of definitions of names of therapeutic actions, comprises the first chapter and, together with some general considerations, forms Part I. of the book. Part II. takes us at once into the materia medica, which proceeds by way of the alphabet

through a list of drugs. The author says that "many new and some old drugs and pharmaceutical preparations have been intentionally omitted from this edition, and only those considered which are in everyday use and of recognized therapeutic value."

The dose is indicated in the metric system, with the equivalent per old measurement following immediately in brackets. The dose is *given* for the human adult and for various animals, as follows: "Franzula.—Dose, syrup, adult, 8.0 to 30.0 cubic centimetres (two fluidrachms to one fluidounce); dog, 30.0 to 60.0 cubic centimetres (one fluidounce to two fluidounces); cat, 15.0 to 30.0 cubic centimetres (one-half fluidounce to one fluidounce)." Some of the drugs are shared by humans, cattle, horses, cats, dogs, and "smaller animals," others are selected for humans, pigs, the horse, and the cat, with no mention of our friend the dog and no dose for cattle or pigs. A careful survey of the dosage leads to the conviction that certain animals require a larger pharmacopœia than others. The horse follows man very closely in his need of drugs; the dog is not far behind, while cattle, sheep, and pigs require relatively less and less.

Part III., devoted to pharmacy, will probably recommend itself more than the rest of the book to student nurses, especially those who may contemplate a better acquaintance with practical pharmacy.

ON HOLY GROUND: BIBLE STORIES WITH PICTURES OF BIBLE LANDS.

By William L. Worcester. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

"On Holy Ground" is a handsomely illustrated book of stories from the Old and New Testaments, many of the pictures being copies in black and white from celebrated paintings.

These stories are based upon the modern interpretation of the Bible, the literal translation from the text following the explanation or story.

For instance, in the first chapter the reader is given the version of the creation, founded upon the scientific theory of the earth's formation, in these words: "The earth was not made in a moment, but the Lord was forming it through six long ages before it was ready for people to live in."

How much more sensible to give to little children this explanation of the creation than to allow them to gather from the Bible text the idea that the world was hurled in form by the power of a terrible and mighty God, who began the work on Monday morning and finished it on Saturday night, after which supreme effort He "rested on the seventh day." The writer confesses that no amount of common-sense or